



HISTORIC ROYAL PALACES

TOWER OF LONDON

ACTIVITY TRAIL

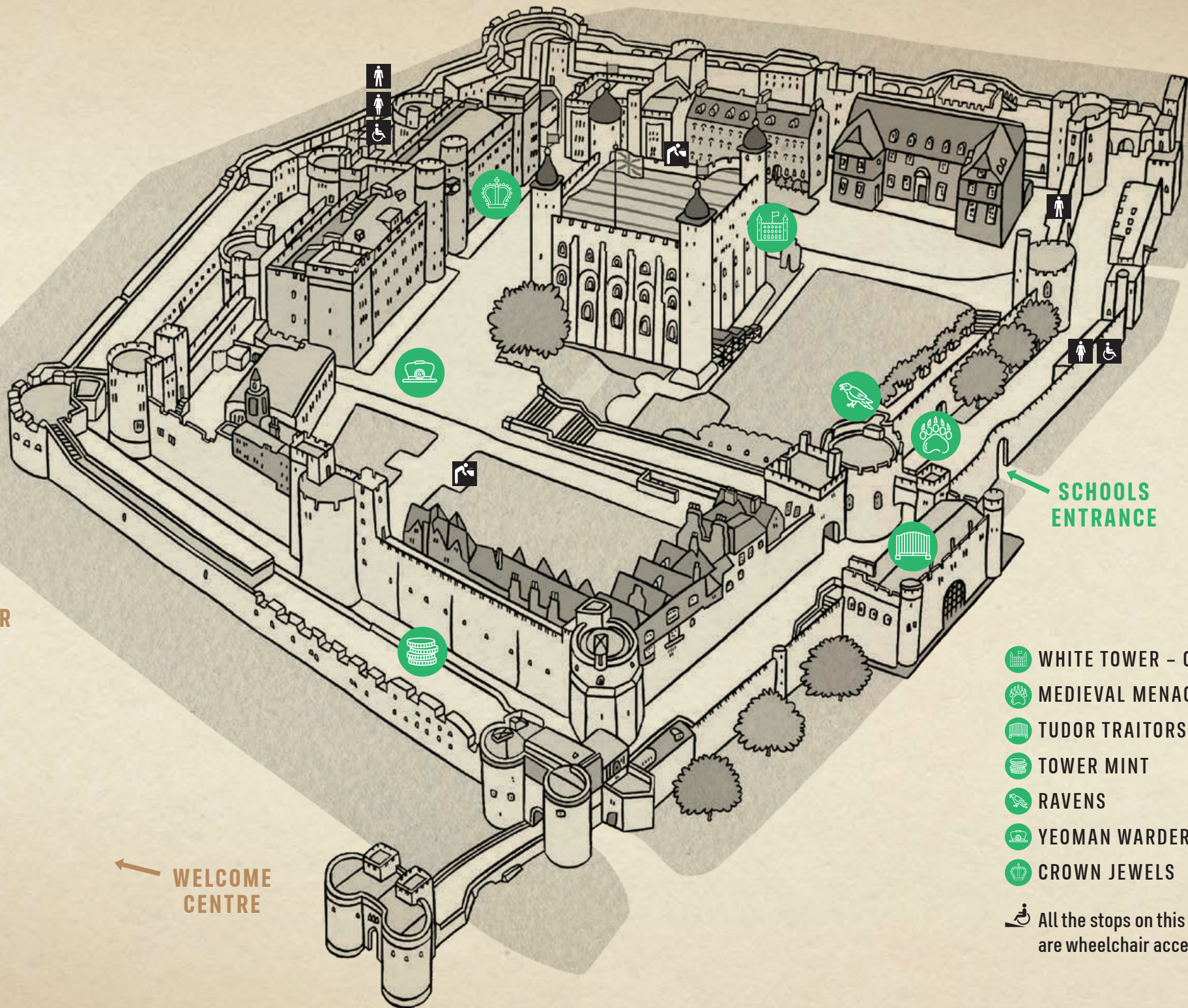


KEY STAGE 1
SELF-DIRECTED VISITS



SPACE TO STIR AND BE STIRRED

TOWER OF LONDON • HAMPTON COURT PALACE • BANQUETING HOUSE
KENSINGTON PALACE • KEW PALACE • HILLSBOROUGH CASTLE AND GARDENS




TOWER
HILL

WELCOME
CENTRE

SCHOOLS
ENTRANCE

-  WHITE TOWER - OUTSIDE
-  MEDIEVAL MENAGERIE
-  TUDOR TRAITORS
-  TOWER MINT
-  RAVENS
-  YEOMAN WARDERS
-  CROWN JEWELS

 All the stops on this trail
are wheelchair accessible

EXPLORE THE TOWER AND IMAGINE WHAT LIFE WAS LIKE HUNDREDS OF YEARS AGO!

On this trail you will:



Draw your ideas



Look around to **find** special buildings and objects



Take some time **think** about how things were different in the past



Tell someone what you have discovered. This could be a teacher or a friend.



WHITE TOWER

1100

The White Tower was completed in 1100, almost 1,000 years ago! When it was finished, it was the biggest, most impressive building for miles. Most other buildings in London were only one storey high and made of wood.



Look at all the modern buildings you can see surrounding the Tower of London today. **Which one do you think** is the most impressive and why?



How are the modern buildings you can see different from the White Tower? **Tell someone.**

MEDIEVAL MENAGERIE

1252

In 1252 the King of Norway sent King Henry III of England a polar bear as a gift. Imagine being given a polar bear! The polar bear lived at the Tower and enjoyed swimming in the River Thames, hunting for fish.



Henry III's menagerie (a collection of animals), grew to include more rare animals like lions and an elephant. **As you walk around, see if you can find** sculptures of other animals that were kept here at the Tower menagerie hundreds of years ago.



Draw Henry's polar bear swimming in the River. What might he have caught?

TUDOR TRAITORS

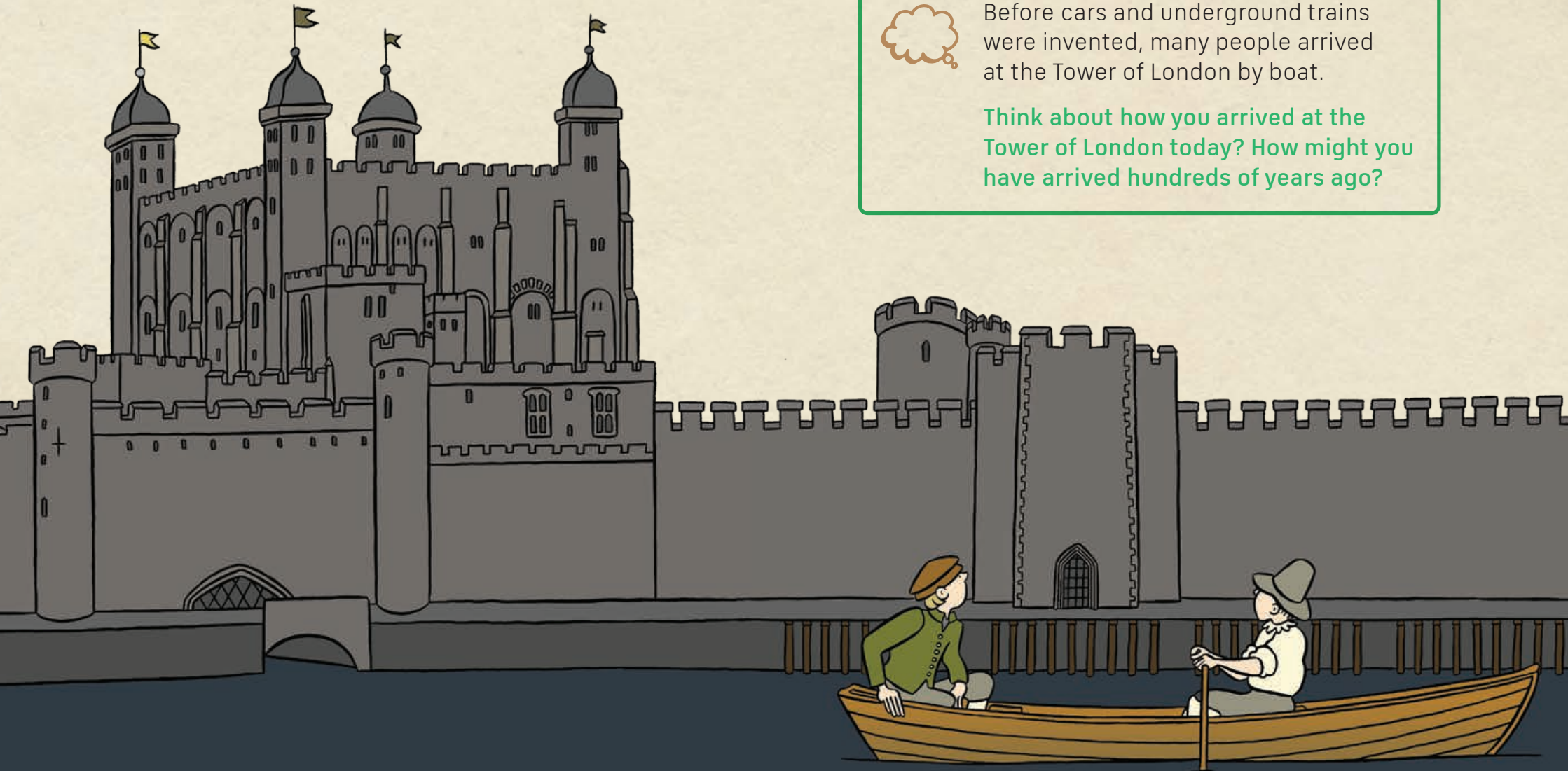
1535

Traitors' Gate used to be called Water Gate. People visiting the Tower could arrive here by boat and walk straight up the steps into the castle. In Tudor times, many of Henry VIII's prisoners arrived through this gate.



Before cars and underground trains were invented, many people arrived at the Tower of London by boat.

Think about how you arrived at the Tower of London today? How might you have arrived hundreds of years ago?

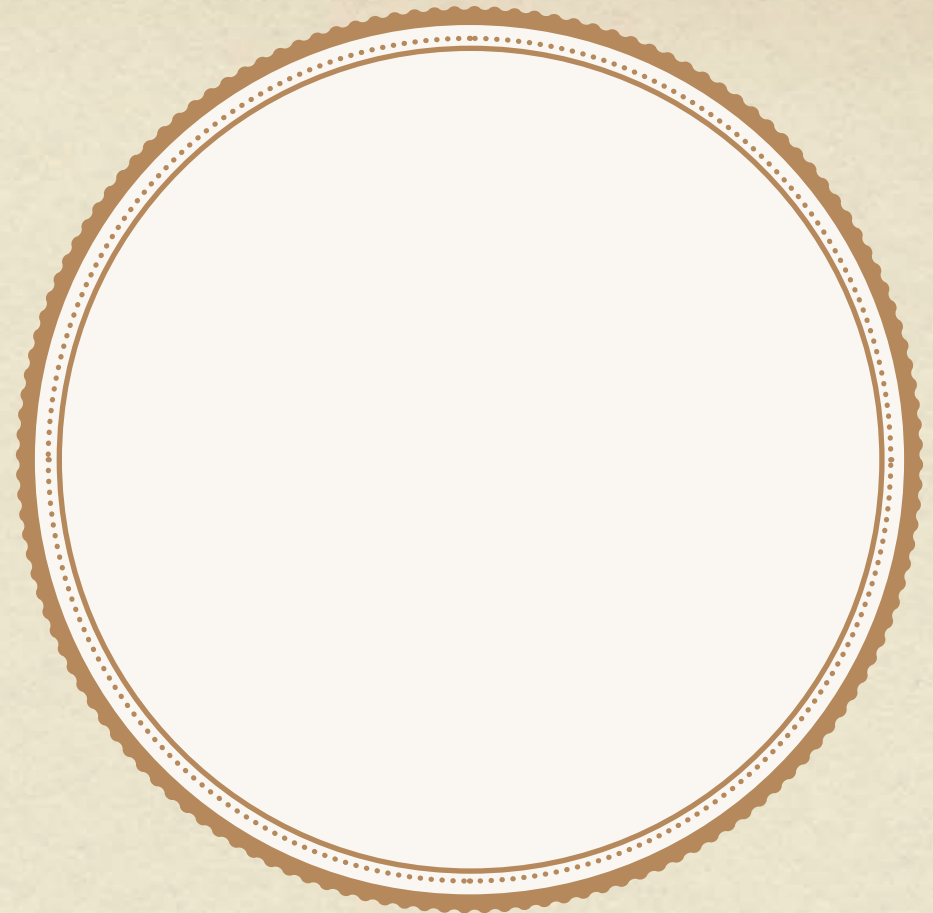


TOWER MINT

1560



Draw your own face in the coin below.



Inside the Royal Mint at the Tower exhibition, can you **find** a machine like the one that used to make coins at the Tower Mint



Hundreds of years ago, most people would only have seen the face of their king or queen on a coin. **Think** of all the places we see the face of our King today.

RAVENS

1660

There are 7 large, black birds who live at the Tower of London. They are ravens. Ravens have lived at the Tower for many years.

When Charles II heard the story that if the ravens were to ever fly away, the Tower would fall down and the monarchy would end, he ordered that there must always be ravens kept at the Tower of London.



Ravens are very big birds but can you **think** of any birds that are bigger than ravens?



Tell someone the biggest bird you can think of. Can they think of one that's even bigger?



YEOMAN WARDERS

1850

The Tower of London has been guarded by Yeomen Warders for over 500 years. The Warders' uniforms used to be red but, in 1850, Queen Victoria decided that they should wear the more comfortable dark blue uniforms you can see today.

They still wear their fancier, red uniforms on special occasions.



Can you **find** this symbol on a Yeoman Warder's blue uniform?
What letters can you see?



The C stands for Charles
The R stands for Rex,
which means 'King'
The III means 'the third'

CROWN JEWELS

TODAY



For hundreds of years, the Tower of London has been home to the Crown Jewels – important and valuable objects owned by the royal family.



Can you **find** the St Edward's Crown?
In May 2023, this crown was used to crown our King, Charles III.



Imagine you are a King or Queen. **Draw** the type of crown you would wear?

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

There are 10 differences between these two Yeoman Warders. Can you **find** them all?



Answers: 1. 'R' removed, 2. Bows in hat blue, 3. Middle strip of belt gold instead of red, 4. Right sock tassel removed, 5. Sword emblem removed, 6. One stripe on left sleeve removed, 7. Brown beard instead of ginger, 8. White stripes on socks instead of gold, 9. Part of crown missing, 10. Part of collar missing.



This trail was created with the help of the Year 1 teachers
and pupils of Oakdale Infants' School, London.